HAF comics

07

Trevorrow
Connolly
Winegarner

BONUS
DIGITAL EDITION
scroll down for details

STAR WARS

DUEL OF THE FATES

Duel of the Fates #7 pg. 1

Winegarner 2021

MORTIS TEMPLE

REY LIES MOTIONLESS, BLIND AND BLEEDING.

LUKE...

HER HAND MOVES.

LUKE SENSES HER.

LET GO, KYLO. YOU CAN'T DEFEAT US.

US?

I AM NOT ALONE. OBI-WAN WAS RIGHT.

WE'RE CONNECTED.

ALL LIVING THINGS.

REY DRAGS HER SHATTERED BODY UP THE TEMPLE STEPS.

ABOARD THE ECLIPSE, LEIA LOOKS BEYOND THE BATTLE, FEELING REY'S PAIN.

REY.

LUKE CONTINUES.

THE FORCE SURROUNDS US.

ROSE LIES IN THE CAPITOL NAVIGATION SUBSPACE.

SHE LOOKS UP. A FEELING.

IT PENETRATES US.

IT BINDS THE GALAXY TOGETHER.

WE ARE ONE.

BOUND BY THE FORCE.

REY...

POE FEELS A CONNECTION FROM ACROSS THE GALAXY.

POE...

FINN...

FINN FEELS THE CONNECTION.

A SURGE OF HOPE.

FIGHT, REY.

FIGHT.

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REY HEARS FINN.

HE'S THERE WITH HER.

THEY ALL ARE.

FIGHT...

FIGHT...

FIGHT...

FIGHT...

AND WE WILL *NOT* BE BROKEN.

AFTER THESE WORDS, LUKE VANISHES.

WITH ALL HER STRENGTH, *THE LAST JEDI RISES.*

REY STANDS TALL IN THE TEMPLE DOORWAY.

OUR MASTERS WERE WRONG.

I WILL NOT DENY MY ANGER.

AND I WILL NOT REJECT MY LOVE.

HER LIGHT-SABER FLIES INTO HER HAND.

I AM THE DARKNESS.

AND I AM THE LIGHT.

YOU ARE NOTHING!

YOU ARE NO ONE!

NO ONE IS NO ONE.

TSSH!

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TSSH!

RAAAHHH!!!

VWUM!

KYLO CHARGES.

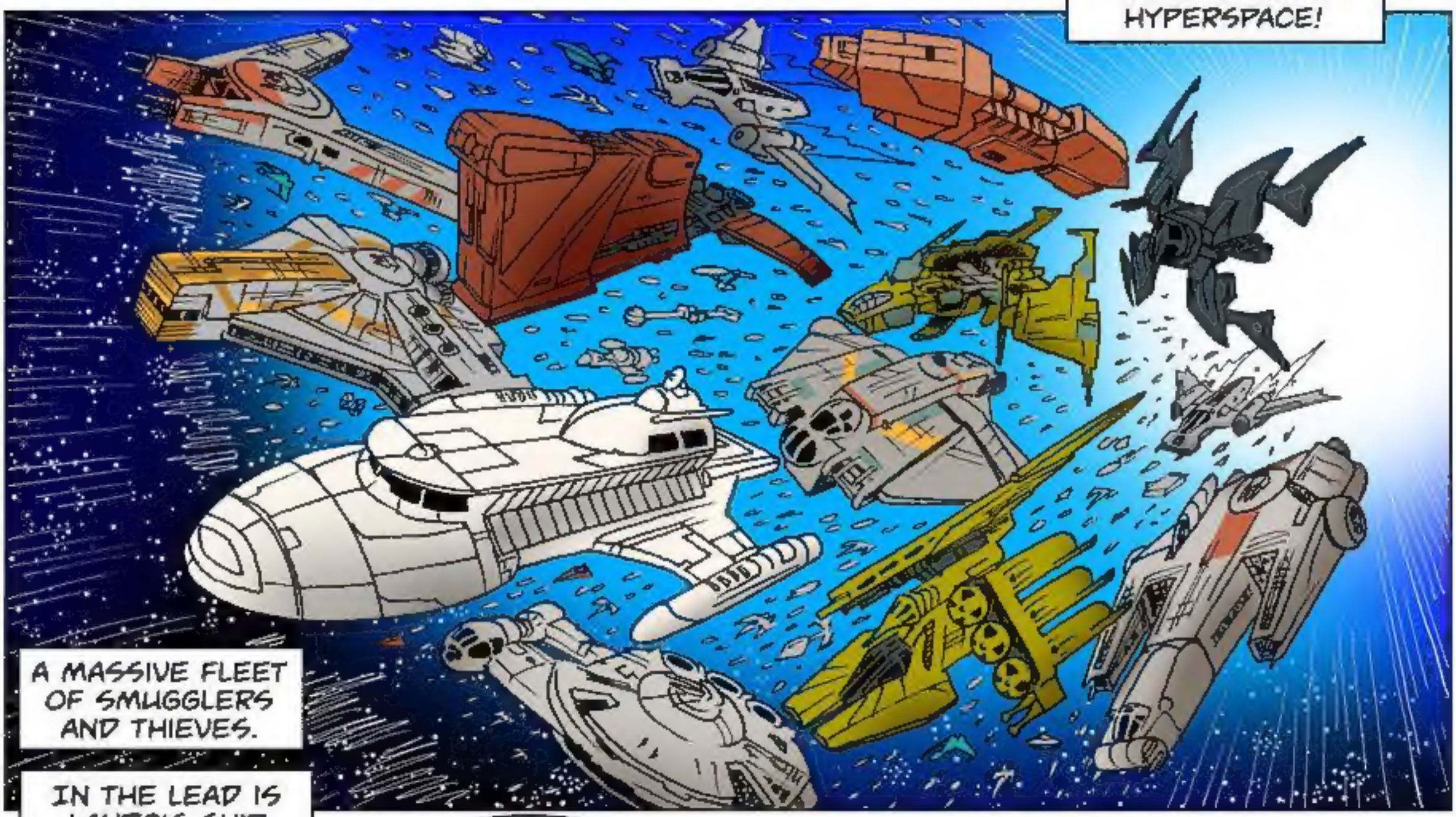
THEIR BLADES MEET AND SIZZLE.

REY FIGHTS BLINDFOLDED, GUIDED BY THE FORCE.

CORUSCANT ORBIT.
MORE SHIPS ARRIVING FROM THE OUTER RIM, GENERAL.

SIGH
PREPARE TO RETREAT.
THESE AREN'T FIRST ORDER SHIPS!

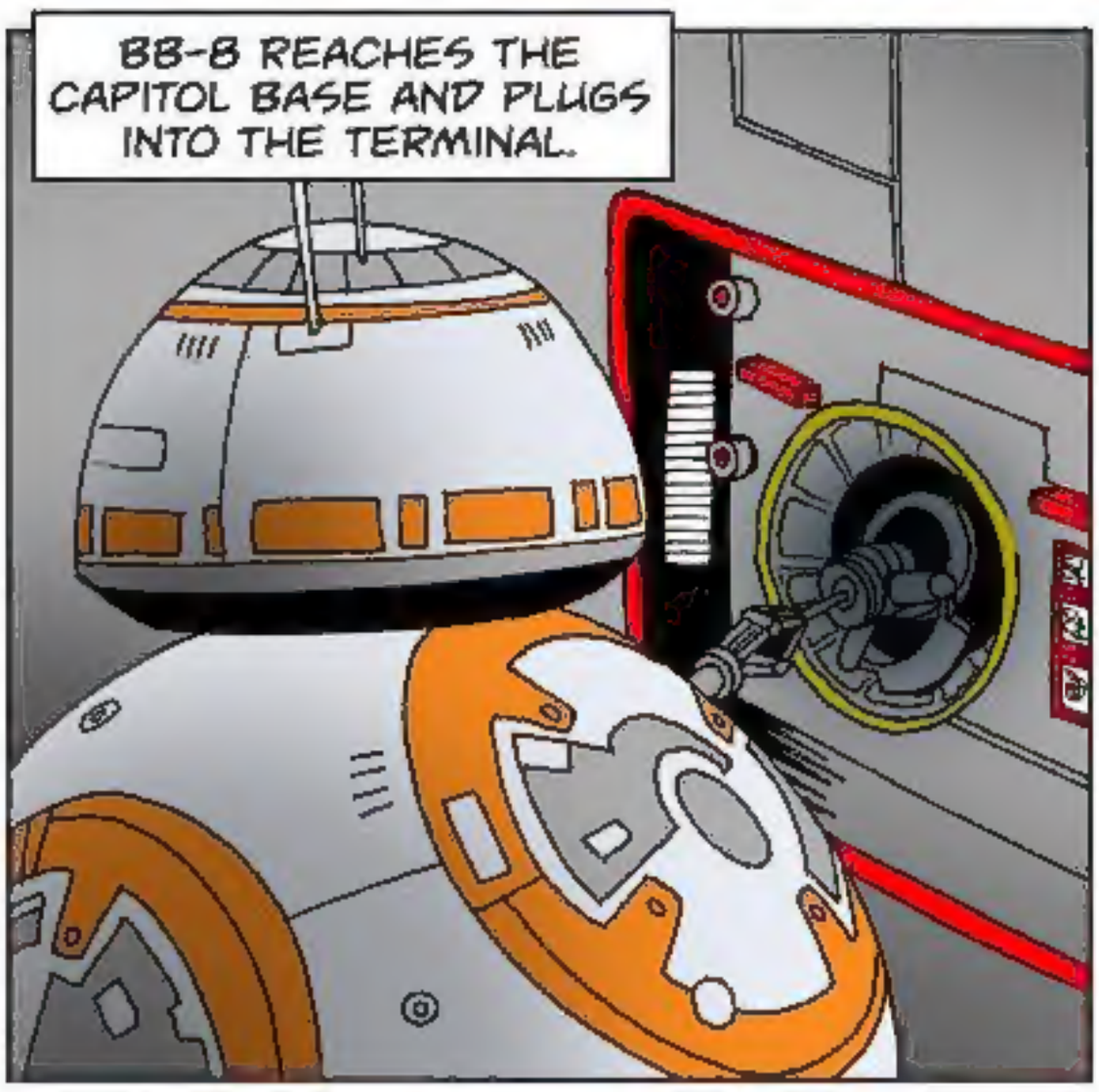
A THOUSAND SHIPS APPEAR FROM HYPERSPACE!


A MASSIVE FLEET OF SMUGGLERS AND THIEVES.
IN THE LEAD IS LANDO'S SHIP, THE LADY LUCK.

NEYYID UBB NUD WUNN.
I THOUGHT YOU COULD USE A FEW SCOUNDRELS.

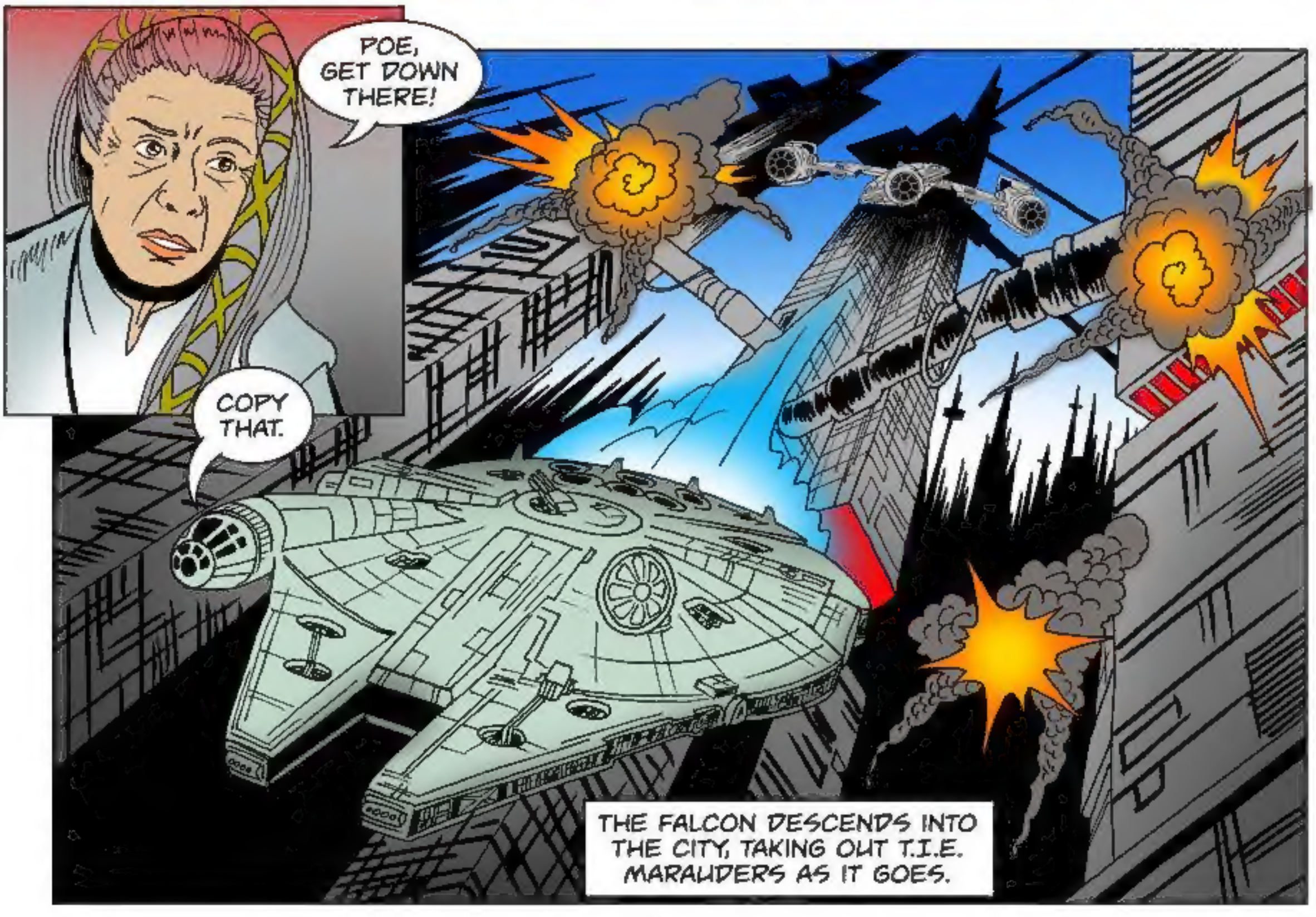
FINN SEES THE BATTALION OF SHIPS.
WHAT?
YEAH!

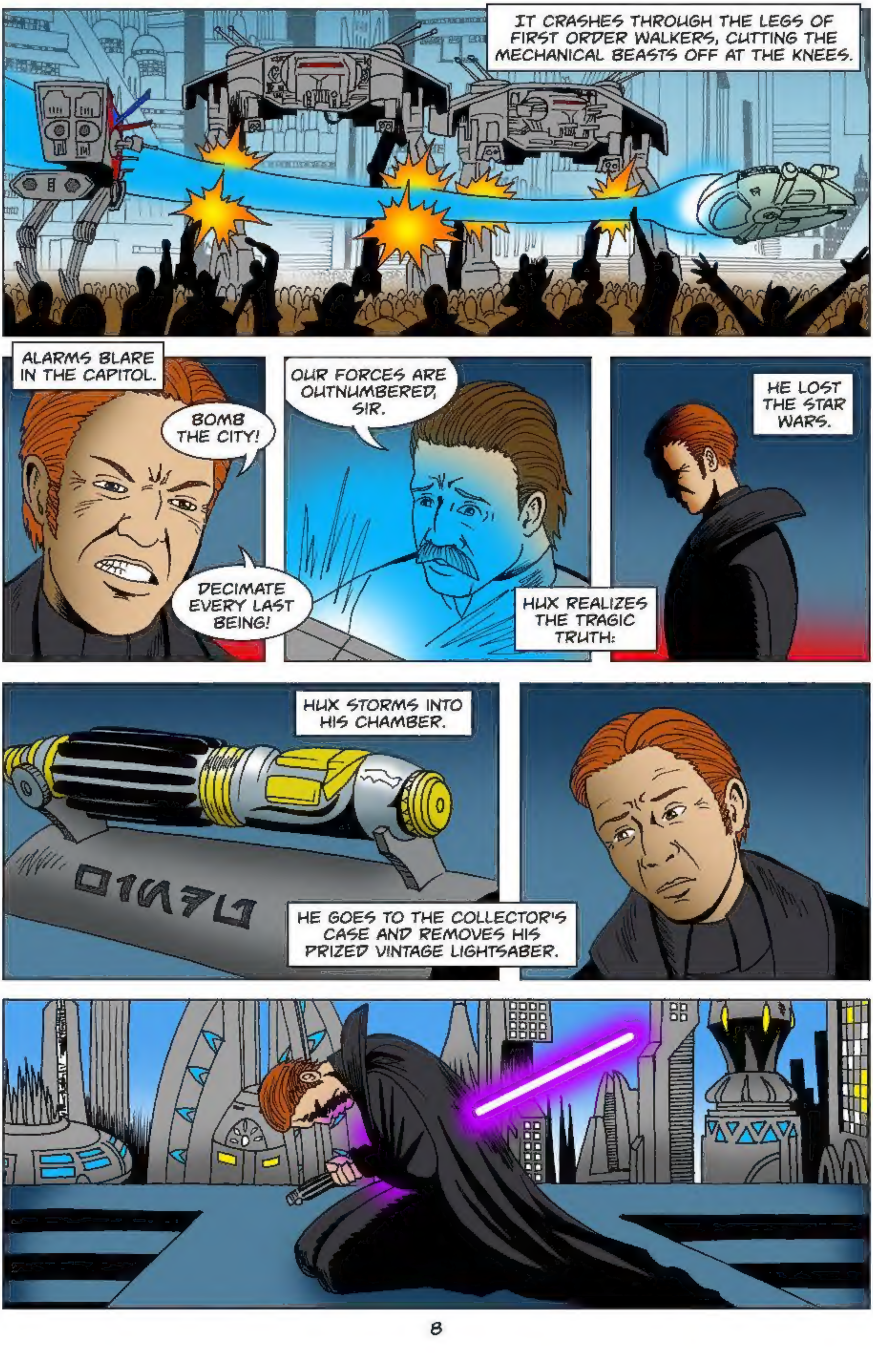
CHEWIE, WE GOT COMPANY!


BB-8 REACHES THE CAPITOL BASE AND PLUGS INTO THE TERMINAL.

ATTA BOY.

FIRST ORDER FORCES ARE IN RETREAT!
SEND MORE SHIPS TO THE CAPITOL!


POE, GET DOWN THERE!
COPY THAT.
THE FALCON DESCENDS INTO THE CITY, TAKING OUT T.I.E. MARAUDERS AS IT GOES.


IT CRASHES THROUGH THE LEGS OF FIRST ORDER WALKERS, CUTTING THE MECHANICAL BEASTS OFF AT THE KNEES.
ALARMS BLARE IN THE CAPITOL.
BOMB THE CITY!
DECIMATE EVERY LAST BEING!
OUR FORCES ARE OUTNUMBERED, SIR.
HUX REALIZES THE TRAGIC TRUTH:
HE LOST THE STAR WARS.
HUX STORMS INTO HIS CHAMBER.
HE GOES TO THE COLLECTOR'S CASE AND REMOVES HIS PRIZED VINTAGE LIGHTSABER.

THEY ARE TWO SIDES OF A COIN...

FLAME AND SHADOW.

KYLO COUNTERS REY'S EVERY MOVE.

FIGHTING TO THE DEATH.

SUDDENLY...

I RUN!

REY SLICES KYLO'S SABER AT THE HILT, ALONG WITH SEVERAL FINGERS.

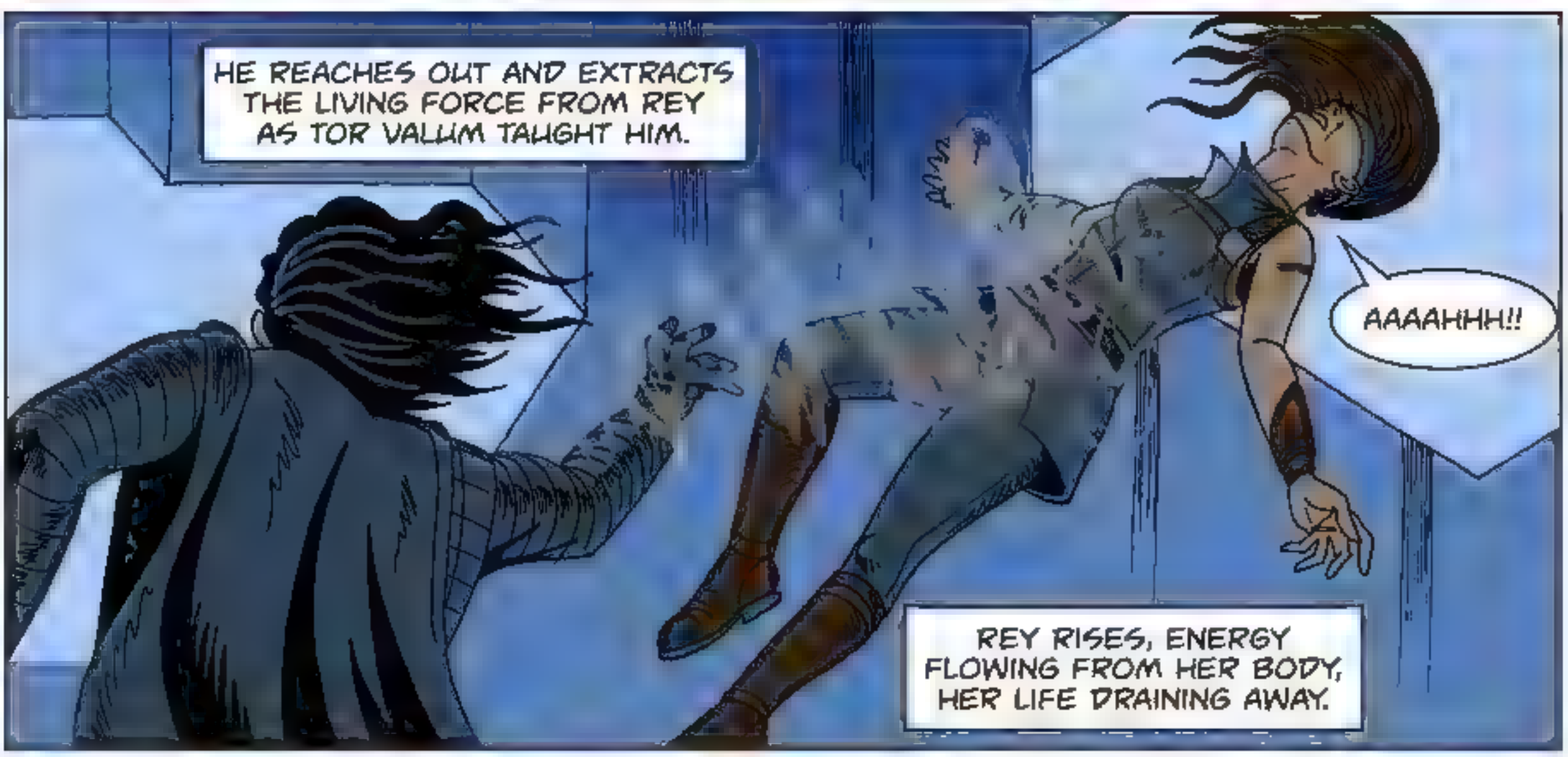
KYLO STUBMLES BACK TO THE EMPTY WELL OF MORTIS.

REY STANDS OVER HIM, ANGER FLOWING.

KYLO IS STUNNED BY THE POWERFUL BEING BEFORE HIM. SHE'S ALMOST GLOWING.

UNFATHOMABLE LIVING FORCE WITHIN.

HE BECOMES ENRAGED LIKE WE HAVEN'T SEEN SINCE ANAKIN.


HE REACHES OUT AND EXTRACTS THE LIVING FORCE FROM REY AS TOR VALUM TAUGHT HIM.
AAAAHHH!!
REY RISES, ENERGY FLOWING FROM HER BODY, HER LIFE DRAINING AWAY.

KYLO STANDS TALL.
ENERGIZED.
HE PULLS THE IRON PLATES FROM HIS FACE--THEY FALL AWAY, HEALTHY FLESH UNDER-NEATH.
THEY WERE WRONG.
ALL OF THEM.
THE POWER OF THIS PLACE CAN'T BE TAKEN.

BEN...

BUT IT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO YOU.

BEN...
PLEASE...

LEIA FEELS THE DISTURBANCE.

BEN...

KYLO HEARS HIS MOTHER'S VOICE.

COME BACK.

COME HOME.

SOMETHING HAPPENS WHEY KYLO HEARS HER.

HELP US.

KYLO FEELS THE VERY THING THAT DESTROYED ANAKIN...

BUT IT *DOESN'T* MAKE HIM FEEL WEAK.

HE LOOKS AT REY'S OUTSTRETCHED HAND...

AND TAKES IT!

THE LIVING FORCE FLOWS BACK INTO REY.

BOTH LIGHT AND DARK SWIRL WITHIN HER...

AS KYLO IS REDUCED TO AN EMPTY SHELL.

A MAN WITHOUT POWER.

A FRIGHT-ENED BOY.

THEY COLLAPSE INTO EACH OTHER.

SOLANA. YOUR NAME.

REY SOLANA.

REY IS STUNNED TO HEAR HER SURNAME.

DISTANT, LIKE A MEMORY.

THEY ARE BEN SOLO'S FINAL WORDS.

GOODBYE, BEN.

REY WATCHES THE LIGHT DIM IN HIS EYES.

BUT IT IS LIGHT.

REY RELEASES HER HOLD AND COLLAPSES, BARELY ALIVE HERSELF.

THEY HAVE FOUGHT TO THE DEATH.

CAPITOL STEPS.

FINN APPEARS THROUGH SMOKE.

HE IS BLOOD-STAINED, DIRTY.

A HERO.

POE REGARDS HIS OLD FRIEND, AMAZED BY HIS TRANSFORMATION.

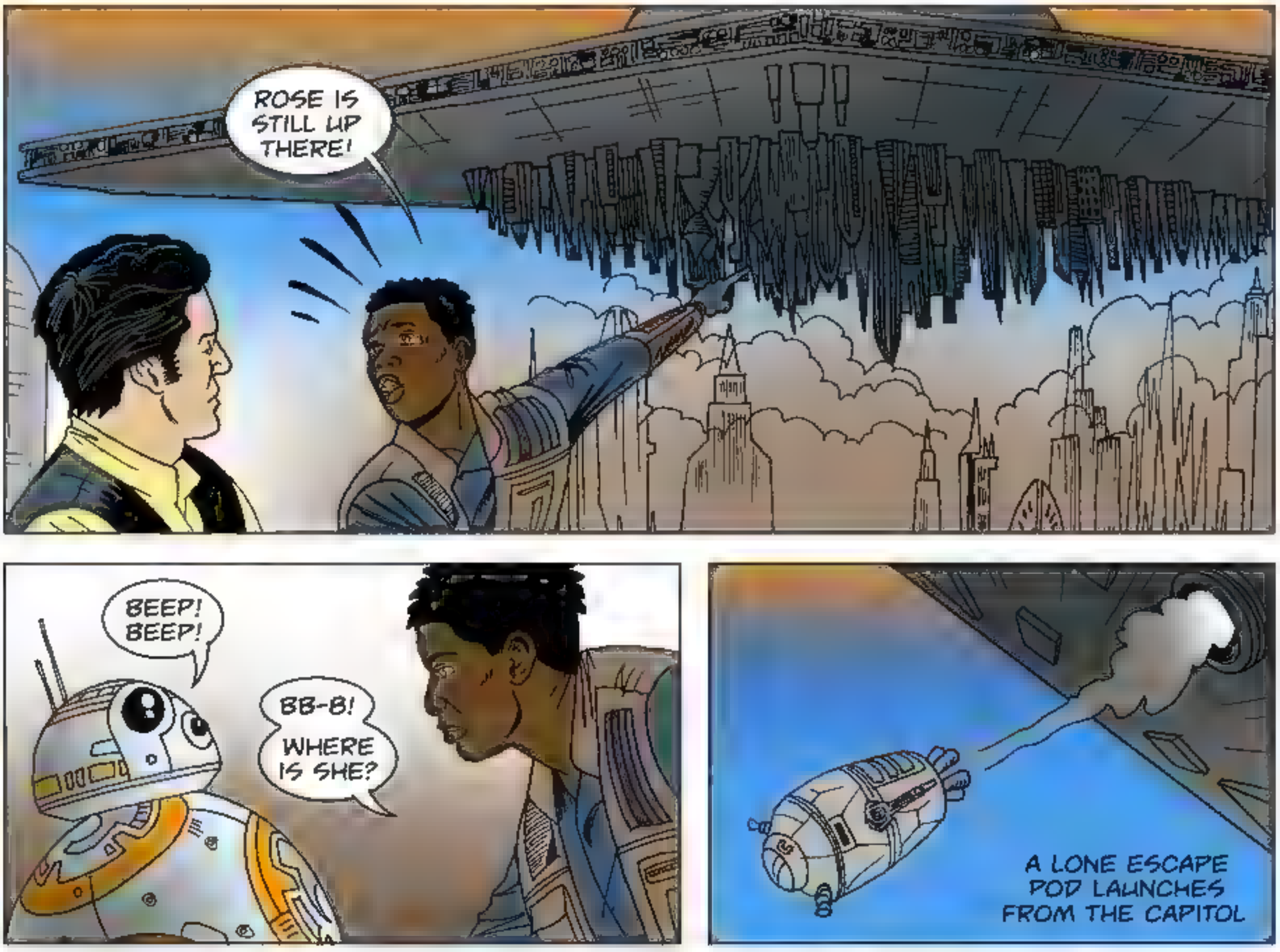
POE SPOTS A RESISTANCE FLAG.

HE HANDS IT TO FINN AS FINN CLIMBS TO THE TOP OF THE BARRICADE OF SHIPS.

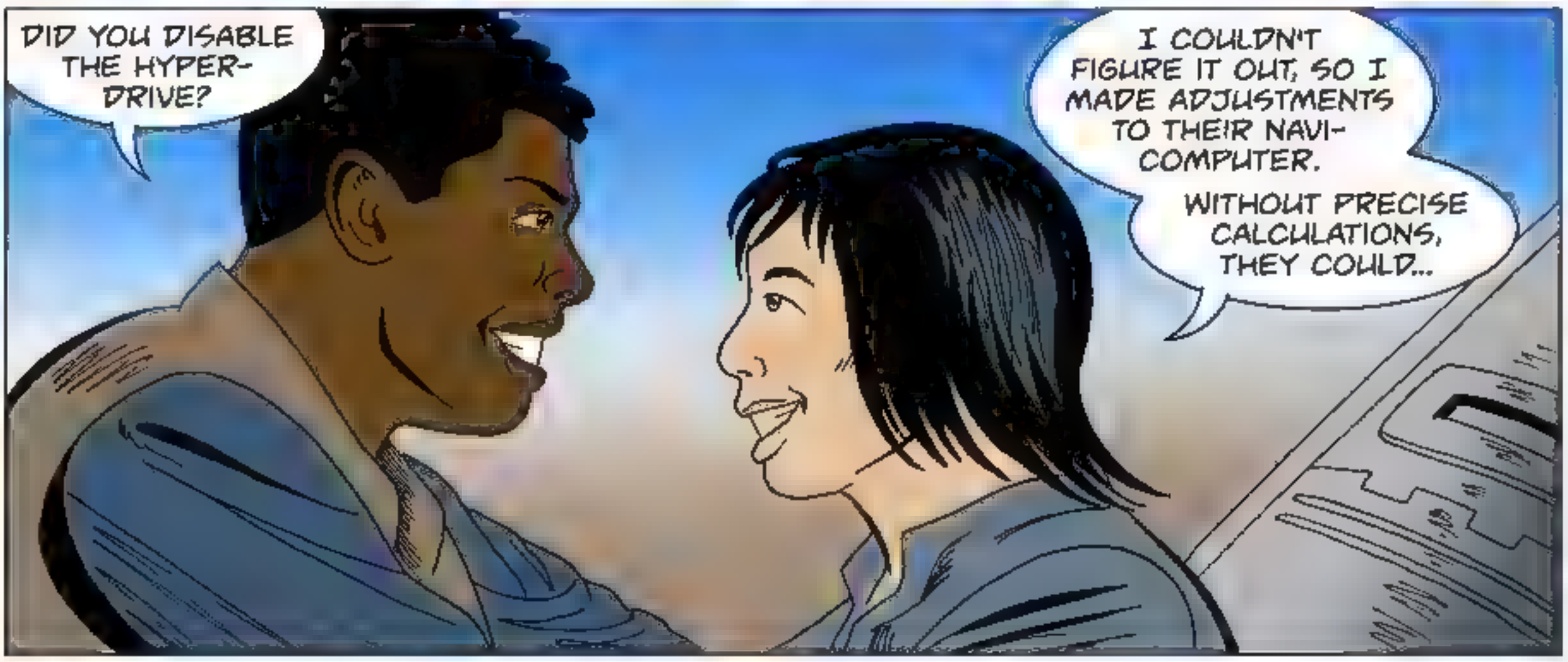
FINN WAVES THE FLAG FOR ALL TO SEE.

RRRRRRUUUUUUUUMMMMMMBLE

SUDDENLY, THE GROUND SHAKES AS THE CAPITOL LEAVES ITS MOORINGS.


ROSE IS STILL UP THERE!
BEEP! BEEP!
BB-8! WHERE IS SHE?
A LONE ESCAPE POD LAUNCHES FROM THE CAPITOL

COMMANDER SELLIK LOOKS DOWN AT THE SHRINKING METROPOLIS BELOW.
READY FOR LIGHT-SPEED.
ROSE, ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M FINE.


DID YOU DISABLE THE HYPER-DRIVE?
I COULDN'T FIGURE IT OUT, SO I MADE ADJUSTMENTS TO THEIR NAVI-COMPUTER.
WITHOUT PRECISE CALCULATIONS, THEY COULD...

THE CAPITOL SHIP RISES INTO THE SKIES ABOVE CORUSCANT AND OUT INTO ORBIT.

... FLY RIGHT INTO A STAR.

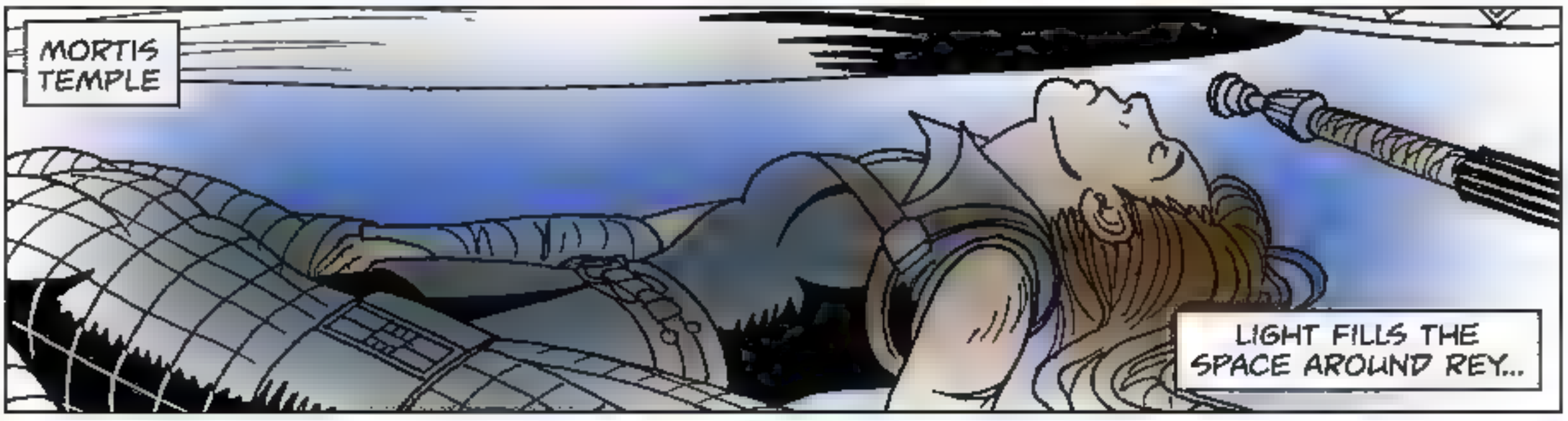
THE SHIP JUMPS TO LIGHTSPEED...

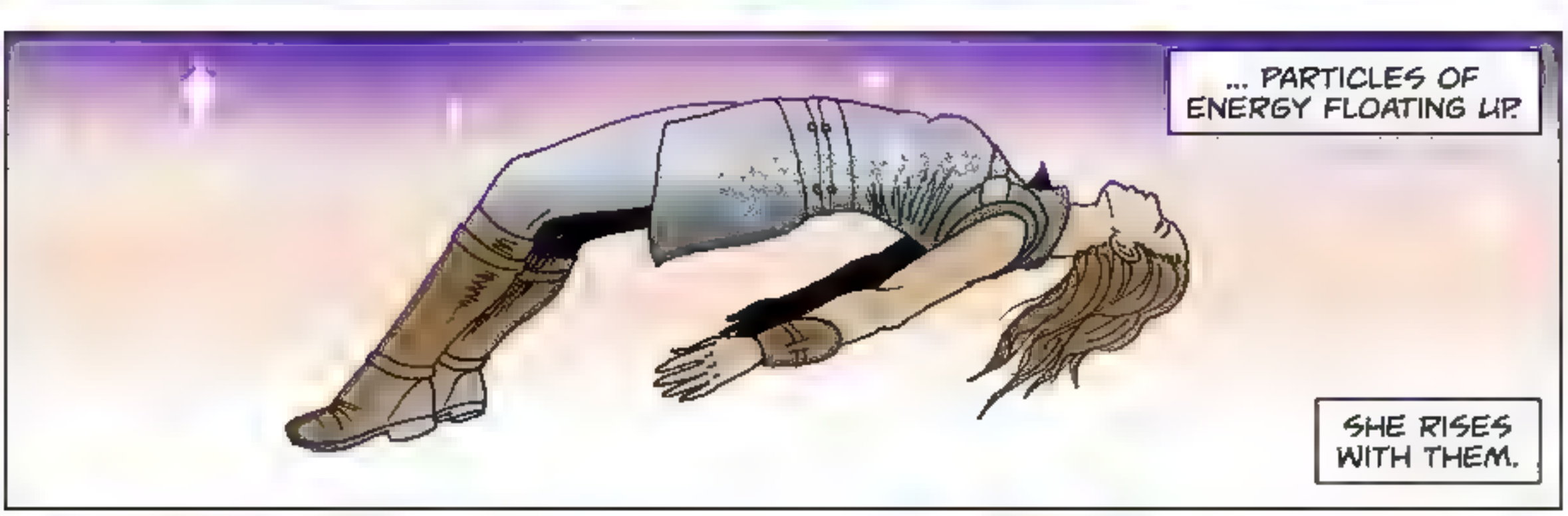
... COLLIDING WITH A NEARBY PLANET, THE IMPACT VISIBLE FOR LIGHTYEARS.

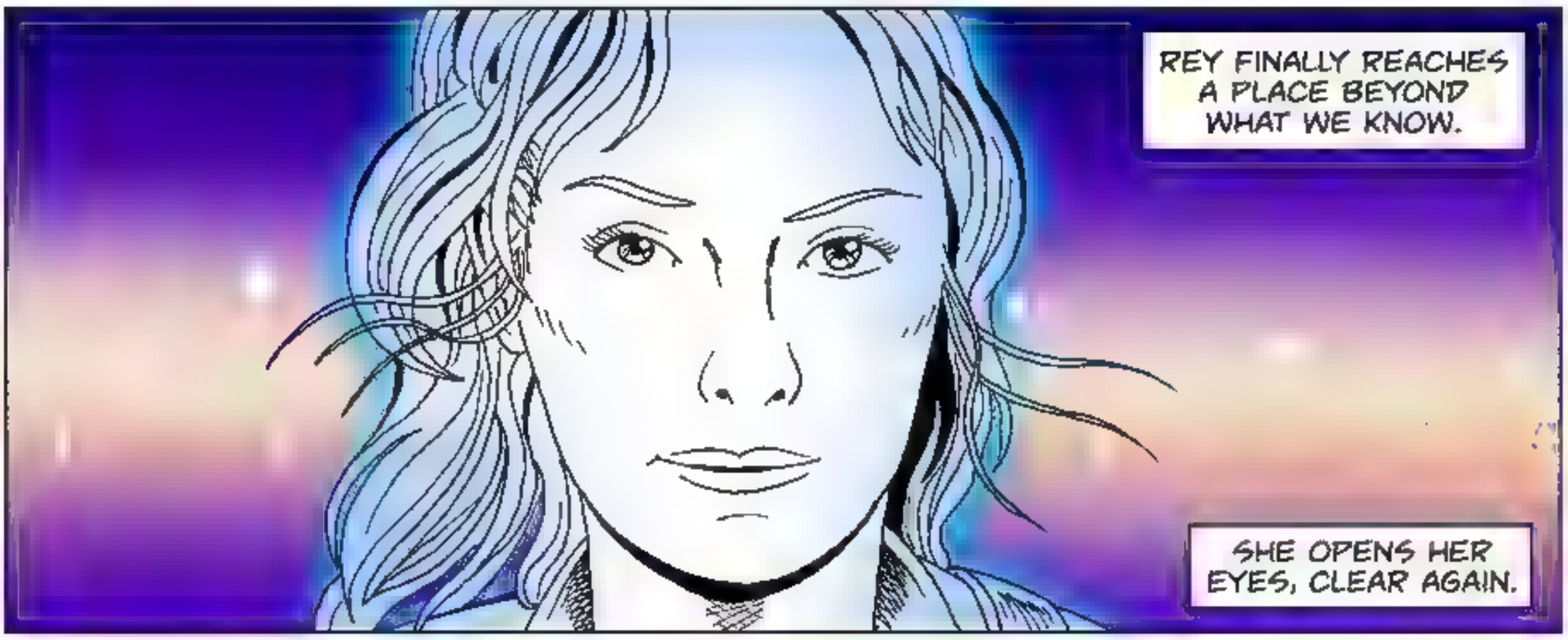
A BEACON OF HOPE.

HOOM!

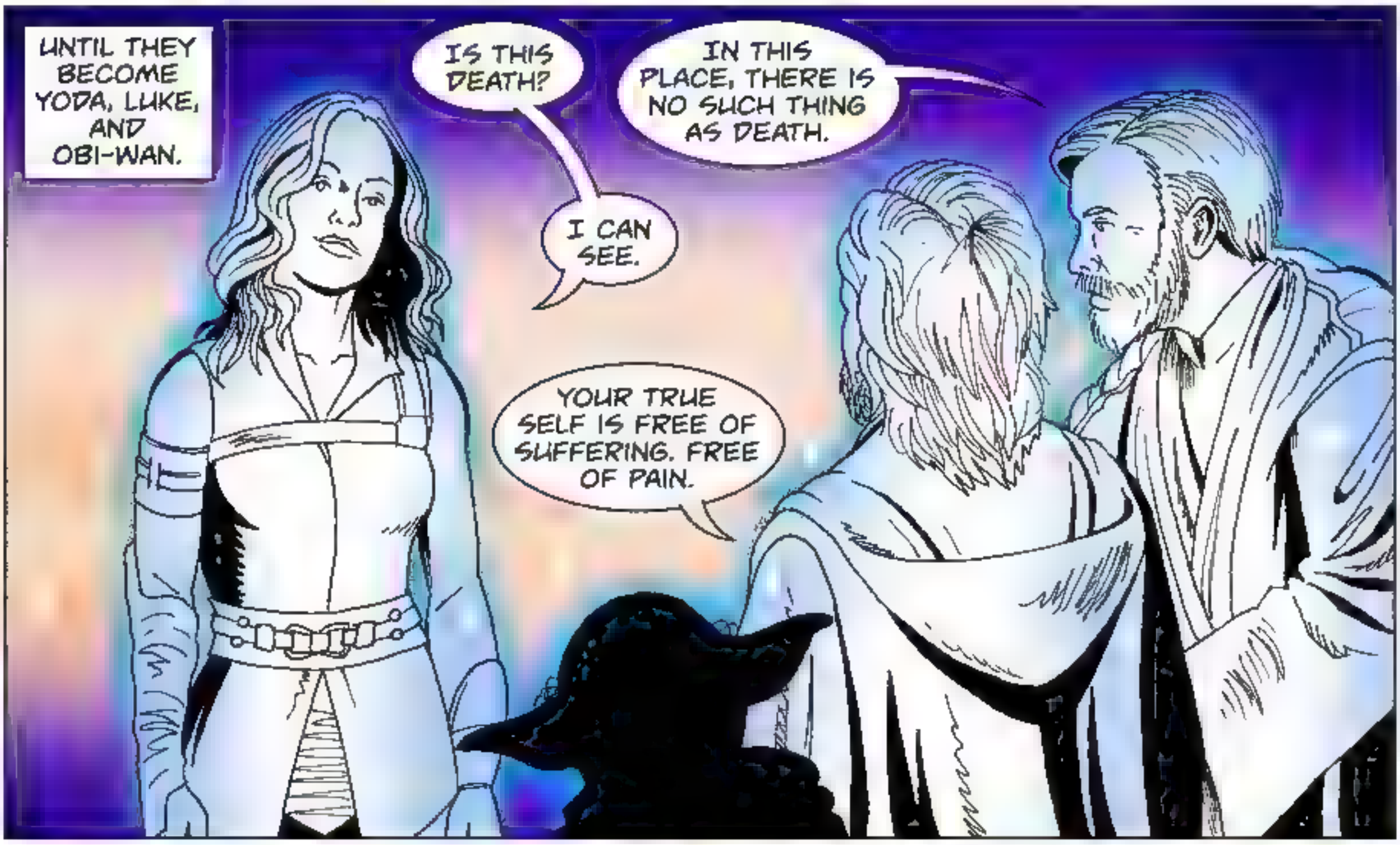
RADIO COMMUNICATIONS INSTANTLY CRACKLE TO LIFE, A CACOPHONY OF VOICES FILL THE FREQUENCY WAVES, CALLING ON THEIR BRETHREN TO FIGHT!

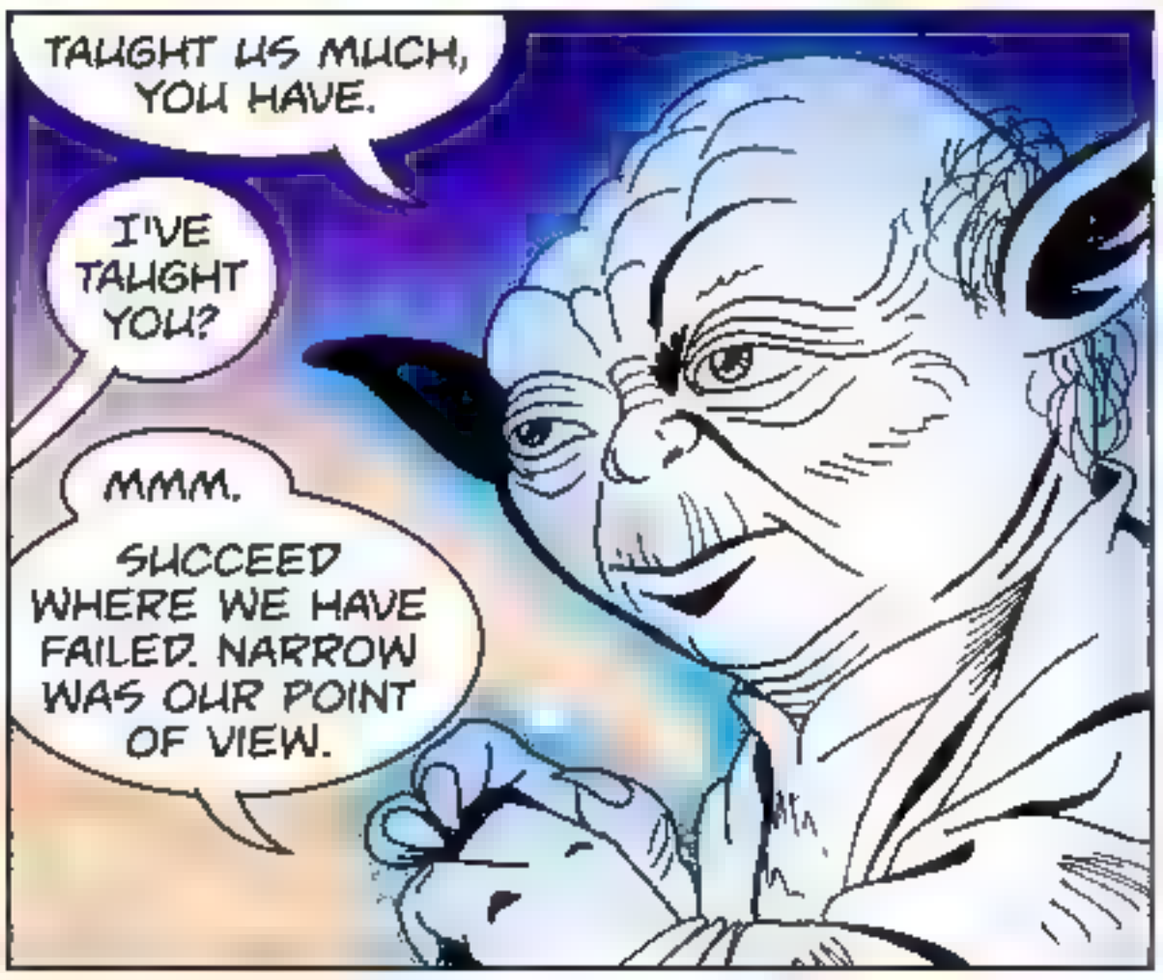

MORTIS TEMPLE
LIGHT FILLS THE SPACE AROUND REY...

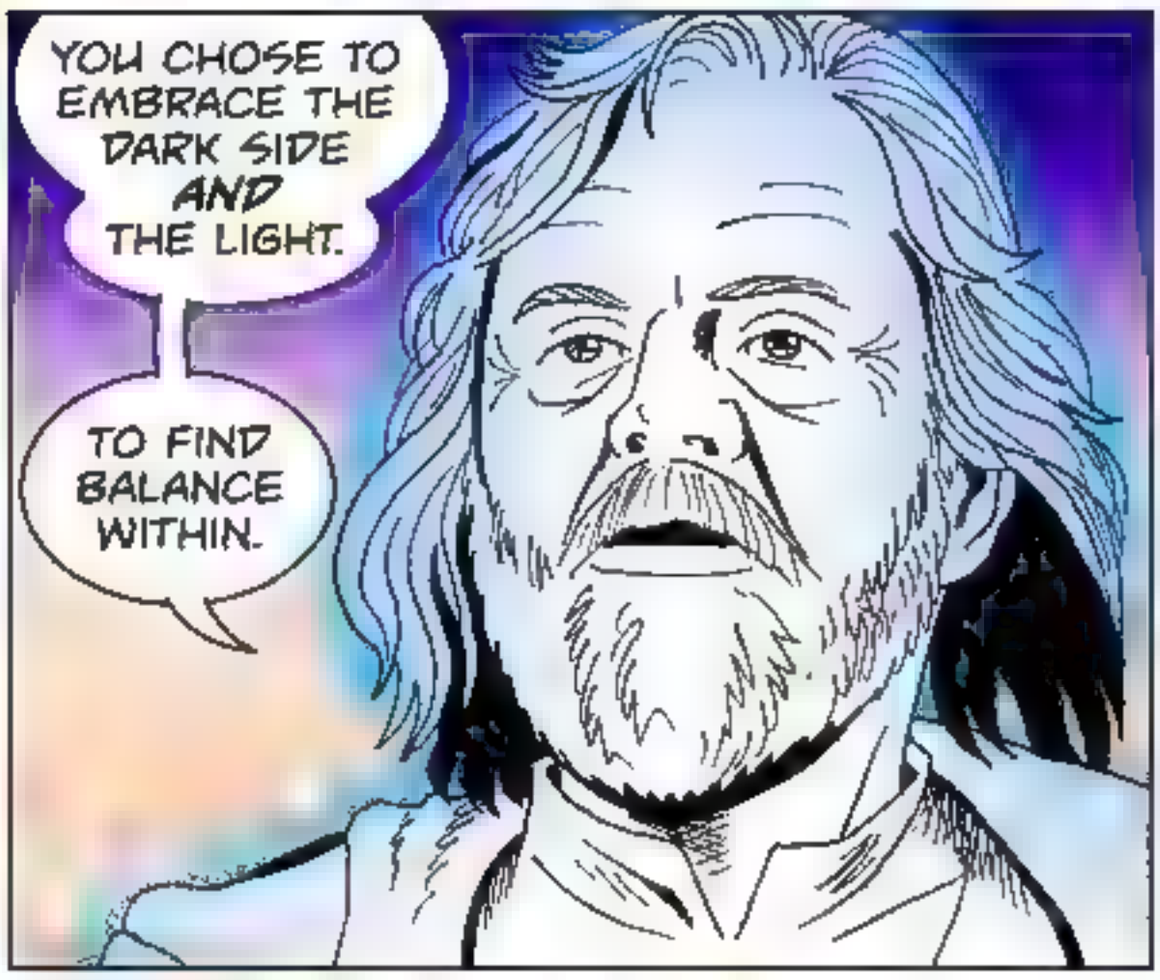

... PARTICLES OF ENERGY FLOATING UP.
SHE RISES WITH THEM.


REY FINALLY REACHES A PLACE BEYOND WHAT WE KNOW.
SHE OPENS HER EYES, CLEAR AGAIN.

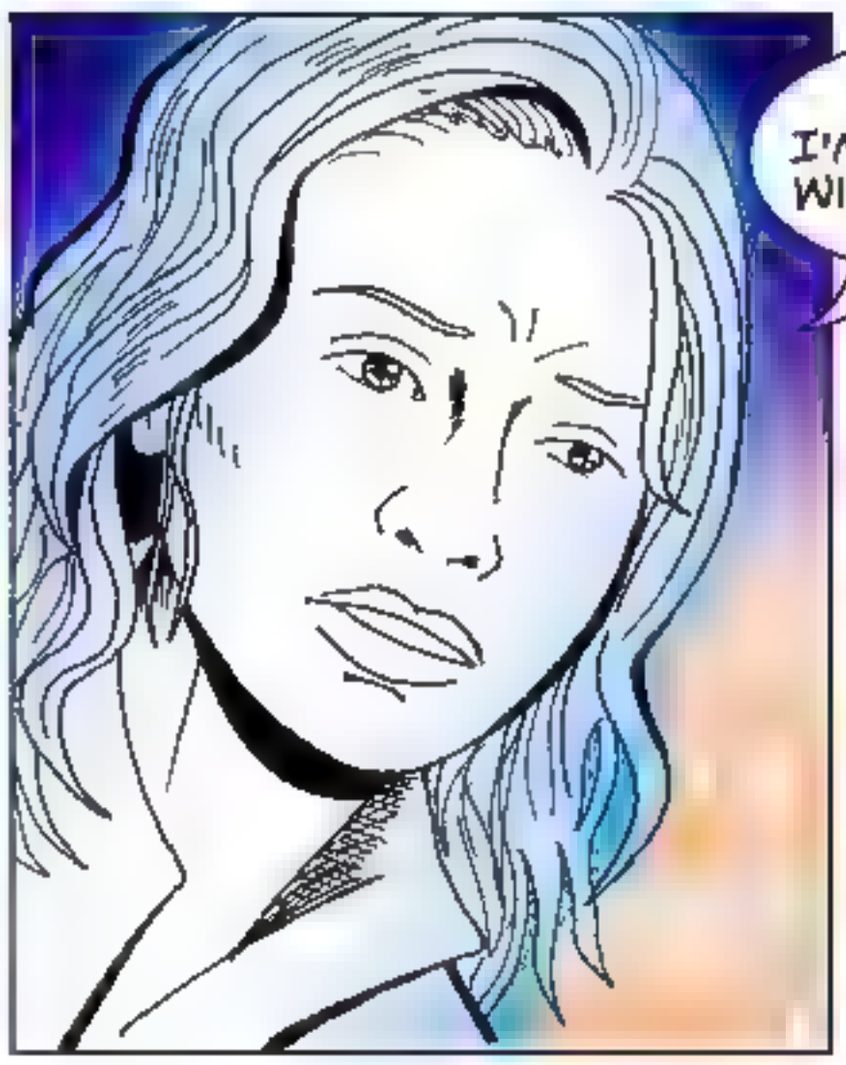
THREE DISTANT GLIMMERS GROW LARGER.
SHE MOVES TOWARD THEM.

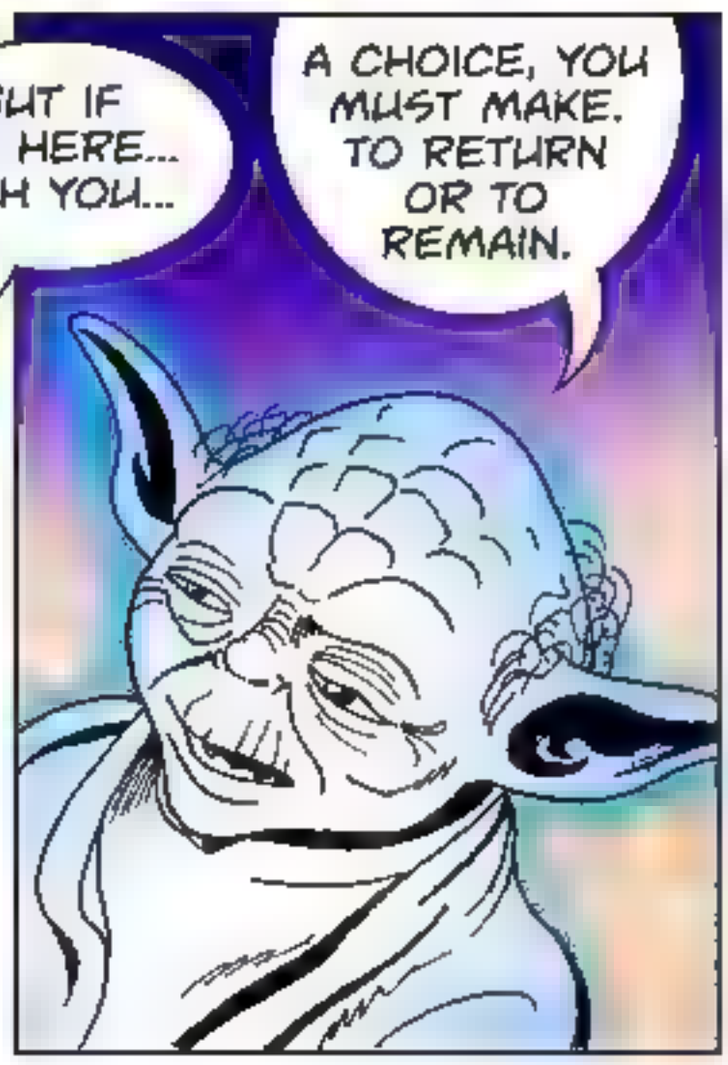

UNTIL THEY BECOME YODA, LUKE, AND OBI-WAN.
IS THIS DEATH?
I CAN SEE.
IN THIS PLACE, THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS DEATH.
YOUR TRUE SELF IS FREE OF SUFFERING. FREE OF PAIN.


TAUGHT US MUCH, YOU HAVE.
I'VE TAUGHT YOU?
MMM.
SUCCEED WHERE WE HAVE FAILED. NARROW WAS OUR POINT OF VIEW.


YOU CHOSE TO EMBRACE THE DARK SIDE AND THE LIGHT.
TO FIND BALANCE WITHIN.

CO-EXIST, THEY MUST, AS SUCH FEELINGS DO IN ALL OF US.


BUT IF I'M HERE... WITH YOU...


A CHOICE, YOU MUST MAKE. TO RETURN OR TO REMAIN.

HERE, THERE IS SERENITY. KNOWLEDGE. PEACE.

THOSE LOST, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN.

REY LOOKS BEYOND THEM AT THE SHIMMERING ENERGY.

AND THERE?

THERE, YOU WILL FACE A GALAXY IN TURMOIL.

PAIN, SUFFERING.

THE LOSS OF THOSE YOU LOVE.

BUT LIVING, YOU WILL BE.

LOVE, YOU SHALL.

REY CONSIDERS THE LIFE SHE'S YET TO LIVE...

... AND MAKES HER DECISION.

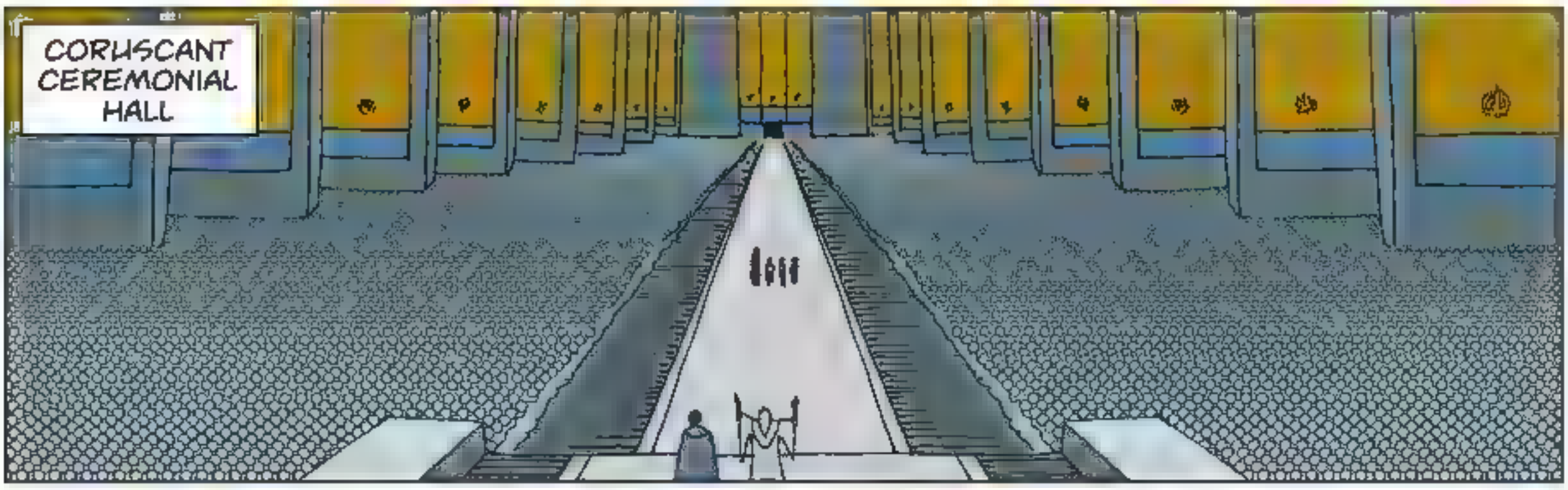
THANK YOU.

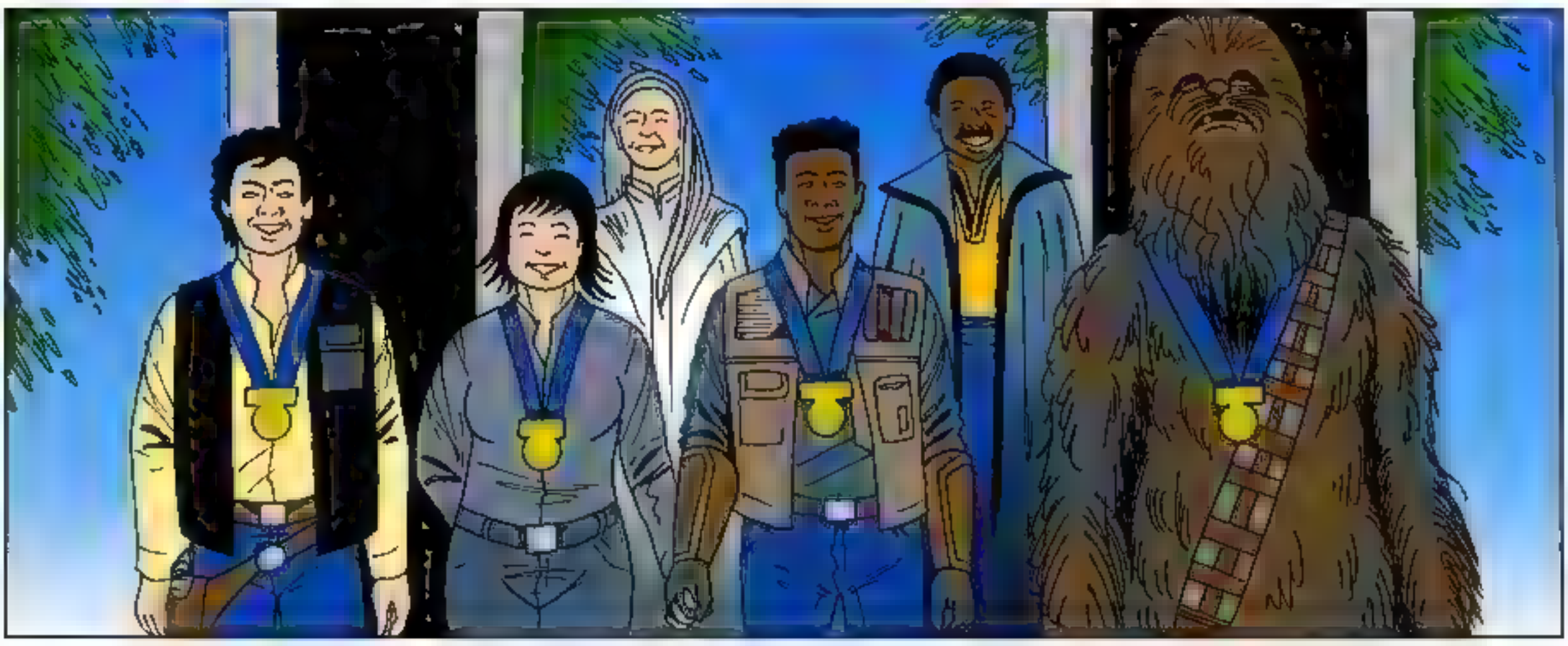
THE SPIRITS FADE INTO THE *COSMIC FORCE.*

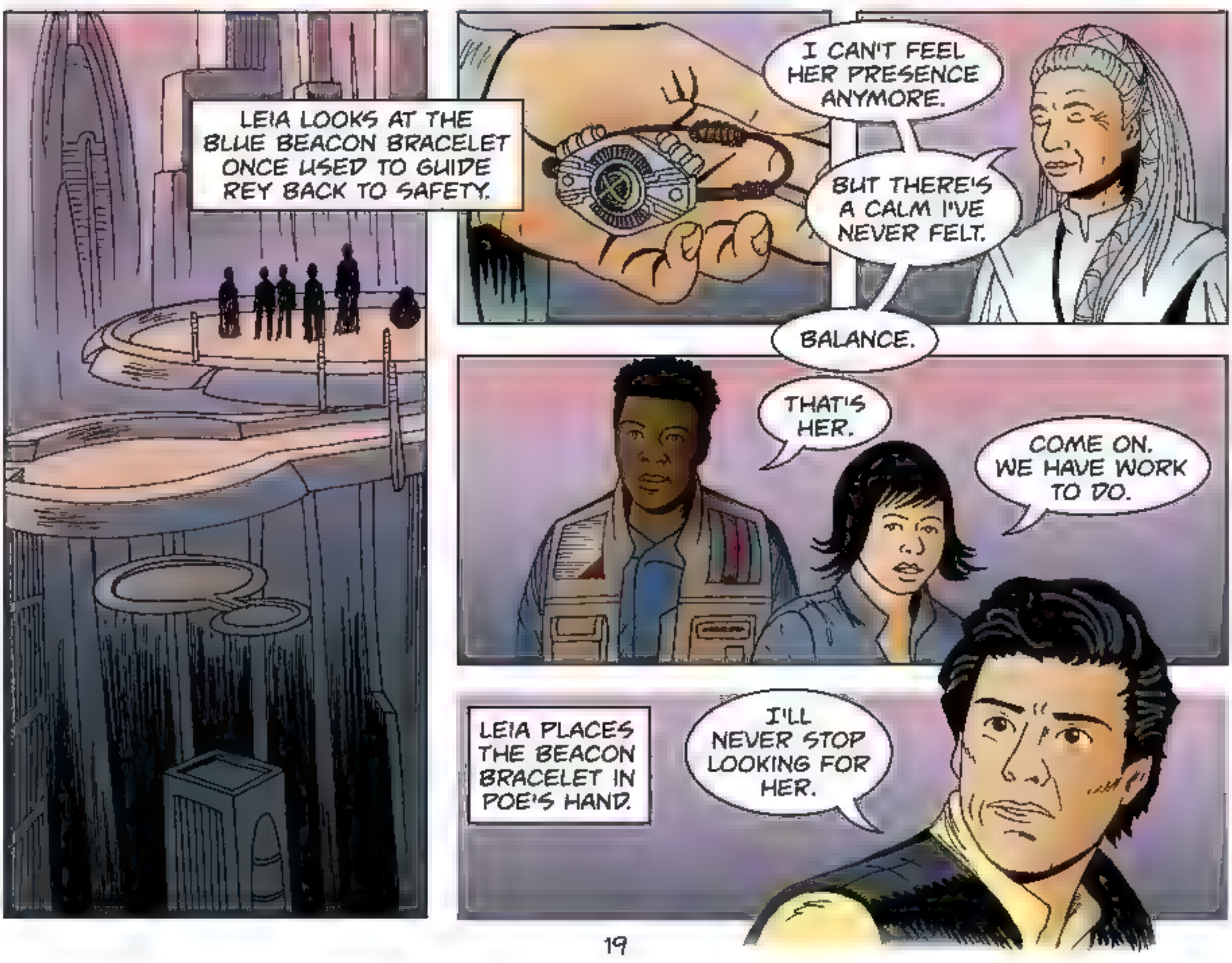
AS THE LIGHT OVERWHELMS HER, OBI-WAN KENOBI'S VOICE ECHOES...

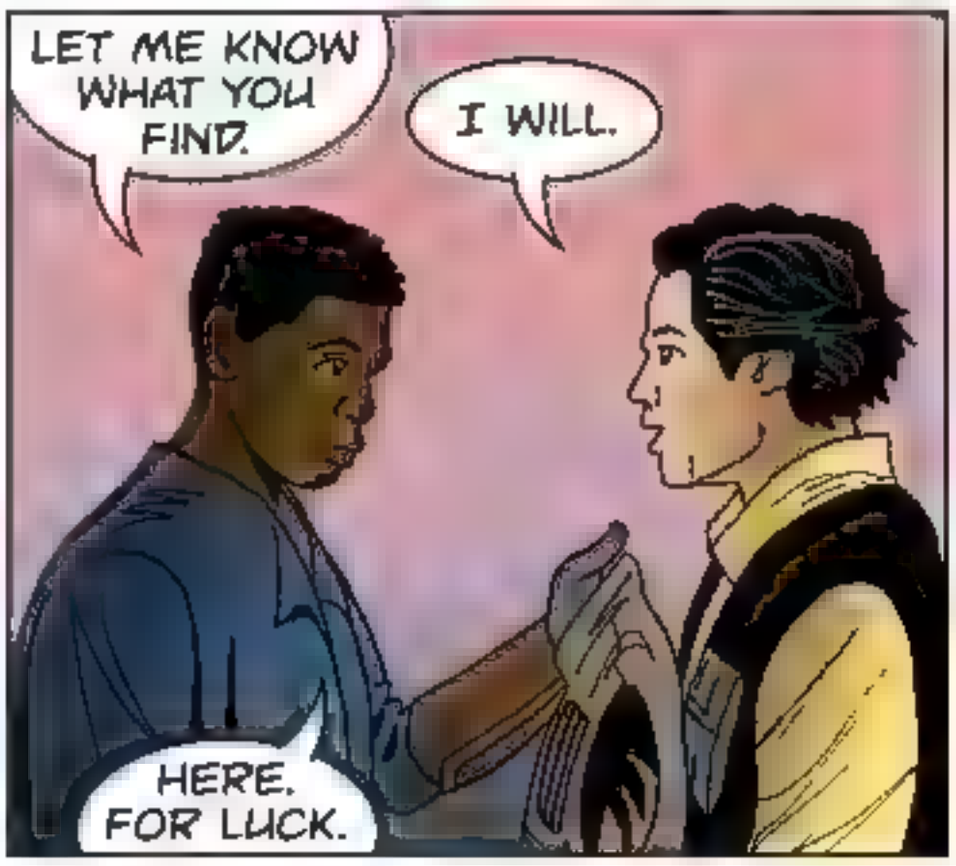
YOU ARE A JEDI, REY SOLANA.

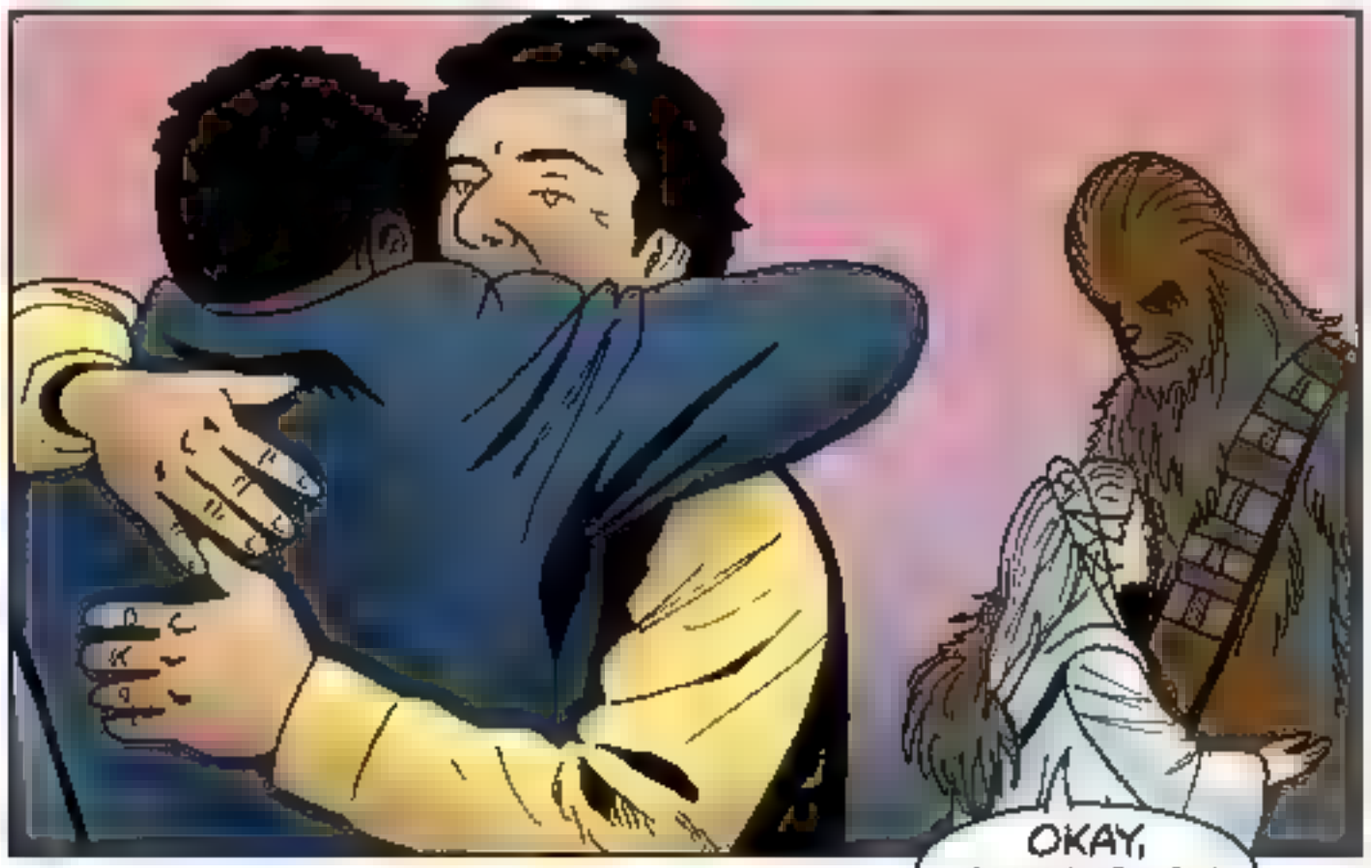
BUT YOU WILL NOT BE THE LAST.

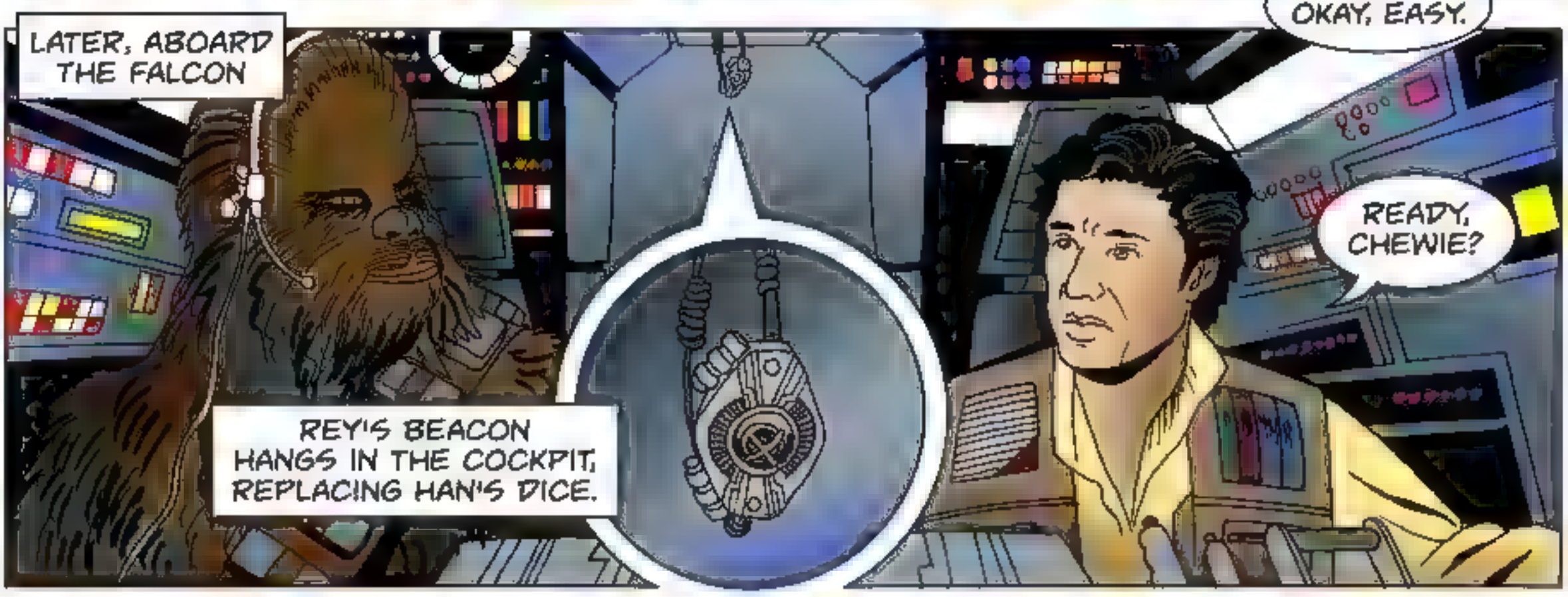

CORUSCANT CEREMONIAL HALL

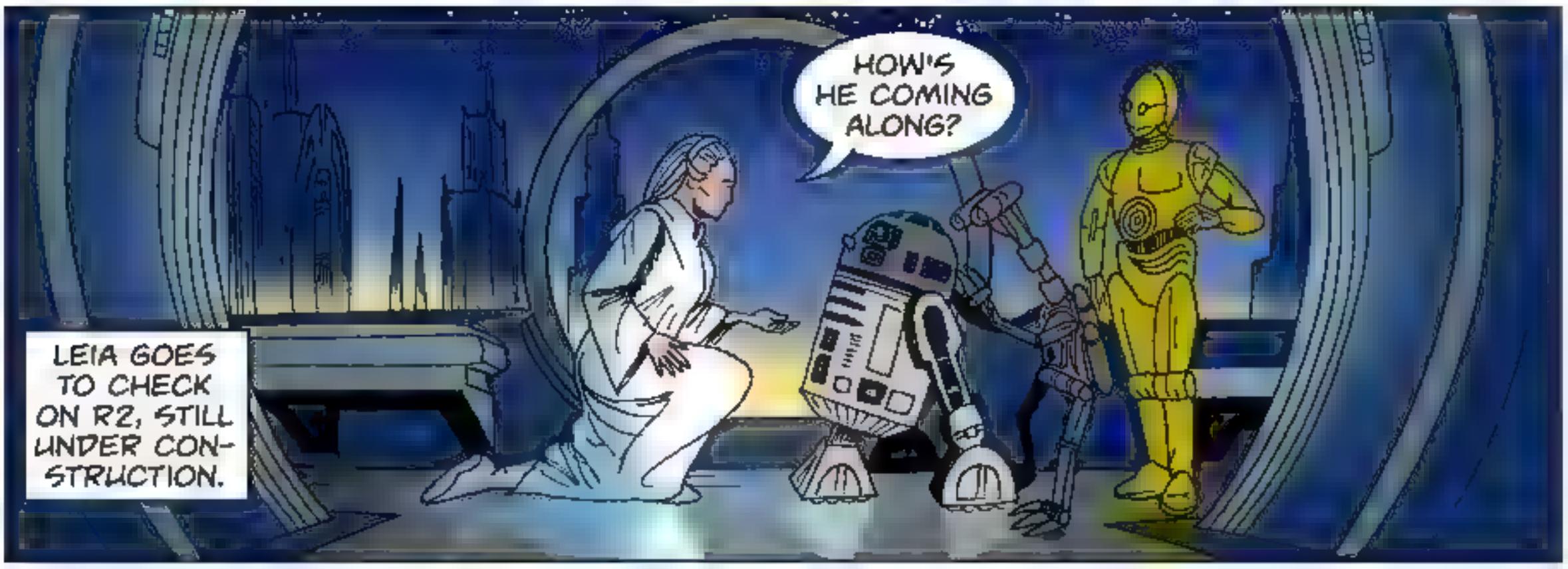


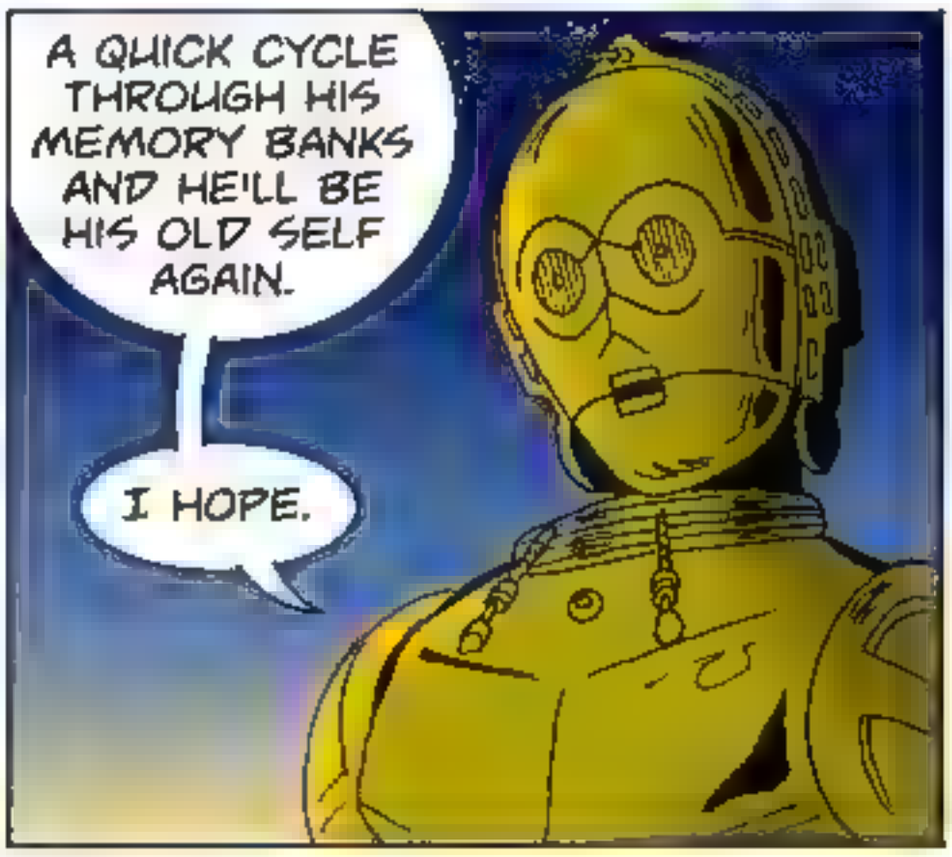

LEIA LOOKS AT THE BLUE BEACON BRACELET ONCE USED TO GUIDE REY BACK TO SAFETY.
I CAN'T FEEL HER PRESENCE ANYMORE.
BUT THERE'S A CALM I'VE NEVER FELT.
BALANCE.
THAT'S HER.
COME ON. WE HAVE WORK TO DO.
LEIA PLACES THE BEACON BRACELET IN POE'S HAND.
I'LL NEVER STOP LOOKING FOR HER.

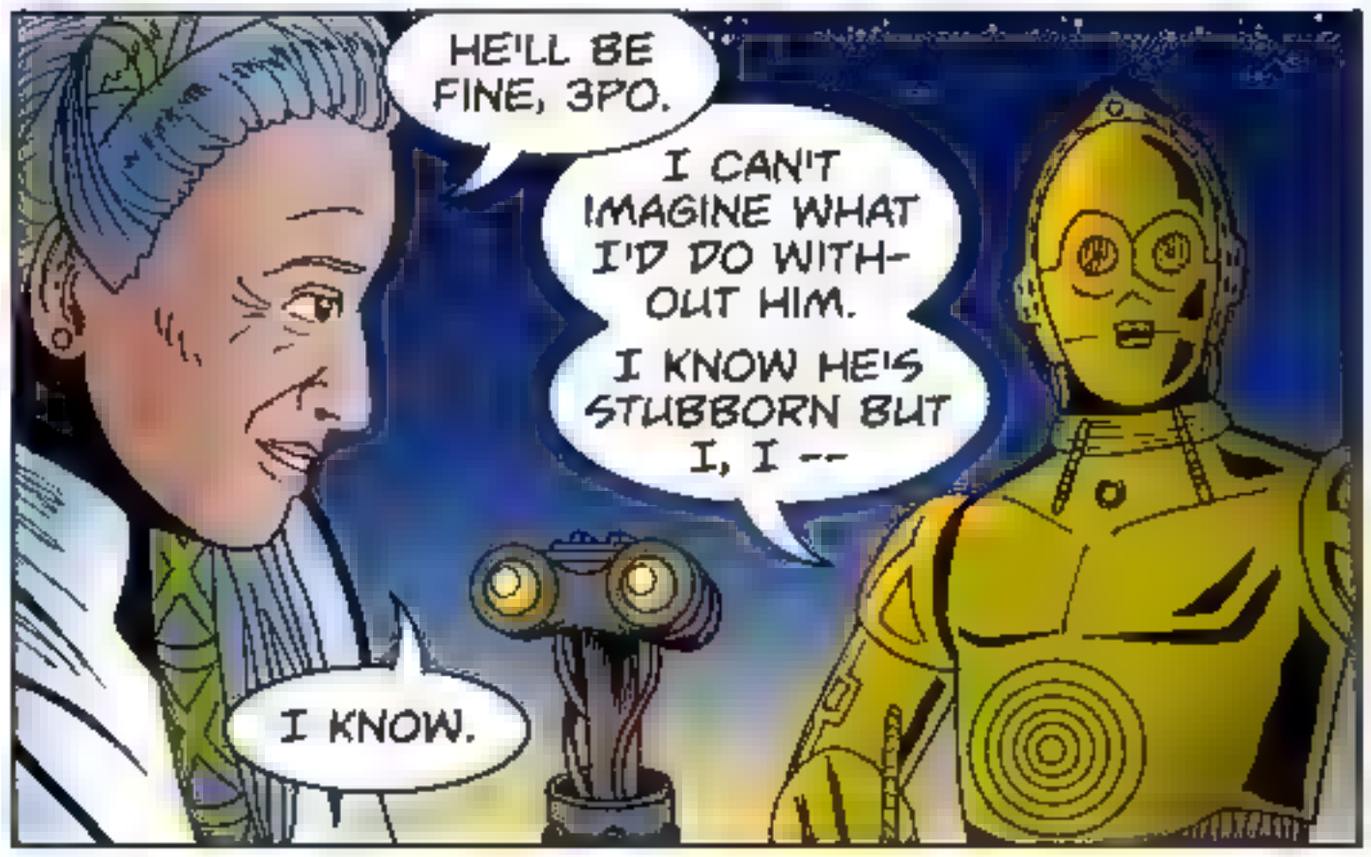

LET ME KNOW WHAT YOU FIND.
I WILL.
HERE. FOR LUCK.


OKAY, OKAY, EASY.


LATER, ABOARD THE FALCON
REY'S BEACON HANGS IN THE COCKPIT, REPLACING HAN'S DICE.
READY, CHEWIE?


HOW'S HE COMING ALONG?
LEIA GOES TO CHECK ON R2, STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION.


A QUICK CYCLE THROUGH HIS MEMORY BANKS AND HE'LL BE HIS OLD SELF AGAIN.
I HOPE.


HE'LL BE FINE, 3PO.
I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT I'D DO WITHOUT HIM.
I KNOW HE'S STUBBORN BUT I, I --
I KNOW.

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R2 BEEPS TO LIFE!

AS HIS FILES CATALOGUE INTO ORDER, HE PROJECTS THE CONTENTS OF HIS MEMORY BANKS.

THANK YOU, R2.

MODESTA

... AND THE LIGHT COULD BE SEEN ALL OVER THE GALAXY...

...IN EVERY SYSTEM.

FINN SITS WITH A GROUP OF YOUNG KIDS.

TEMIRI BLAGG FROM CANTO BIGHT IS AMONG THEM.

SO IS DADE.

REY GAVE US HOPE.

BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW SHE'S *REALLY* GONE?

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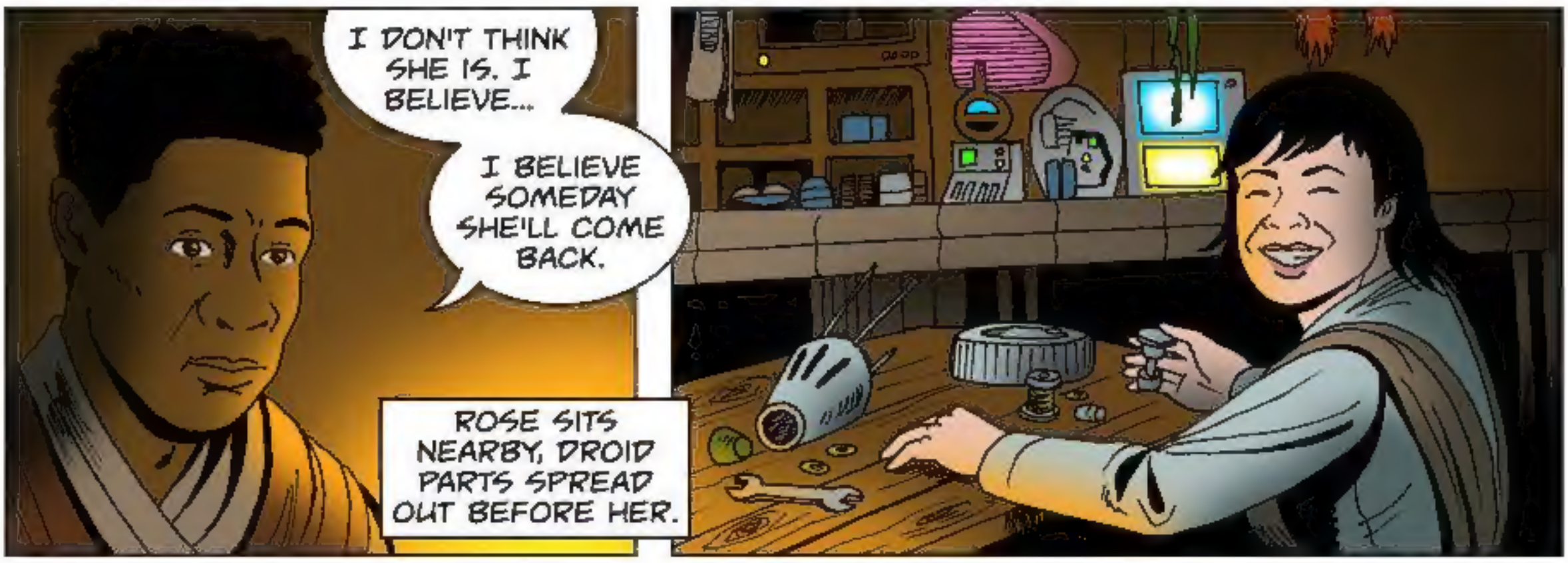
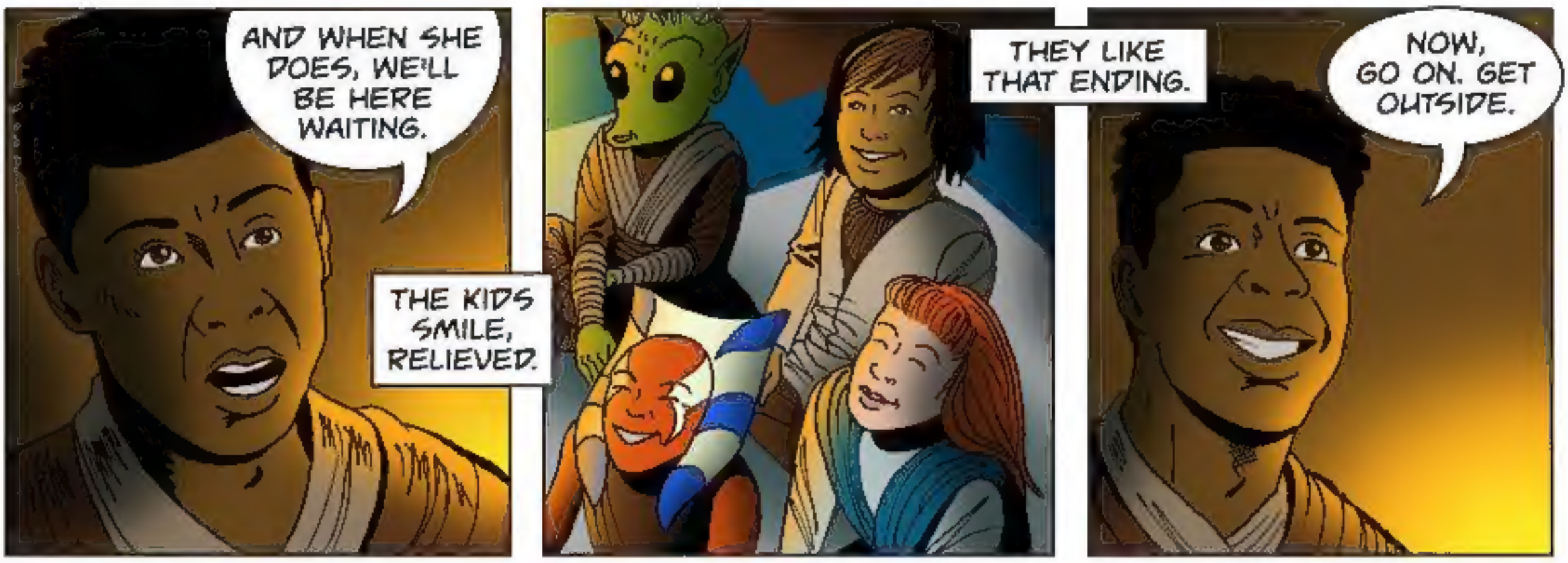
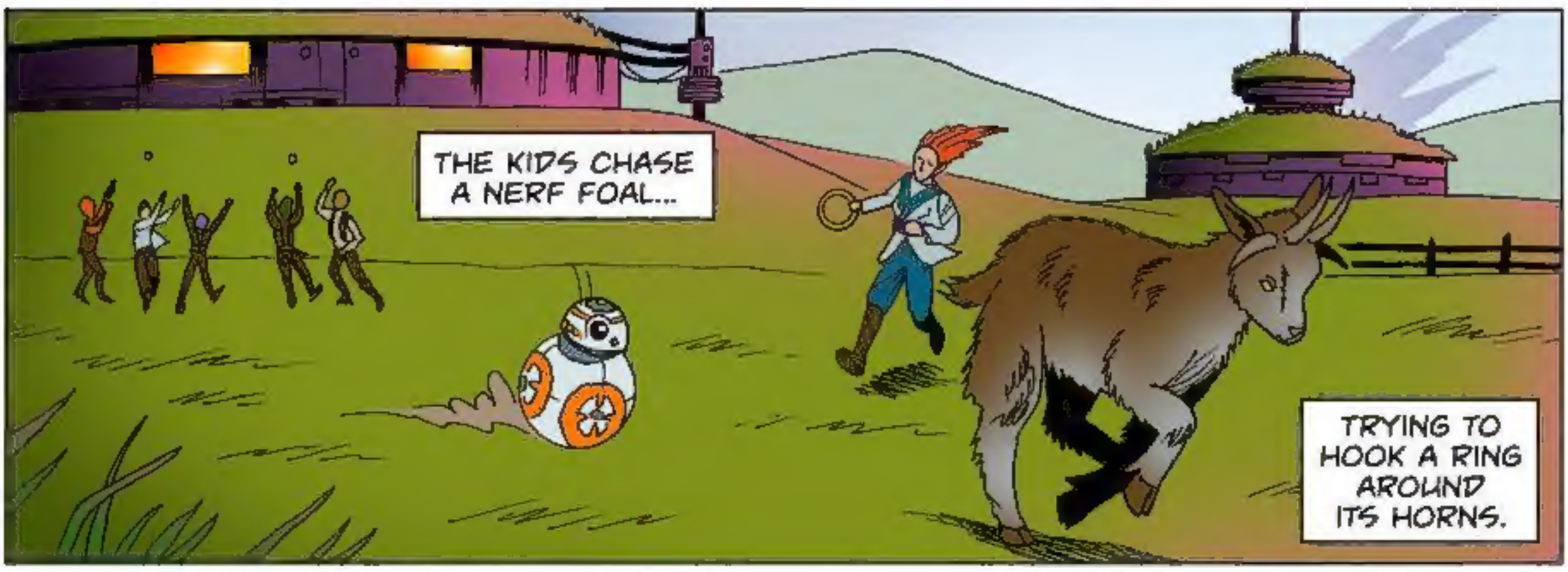
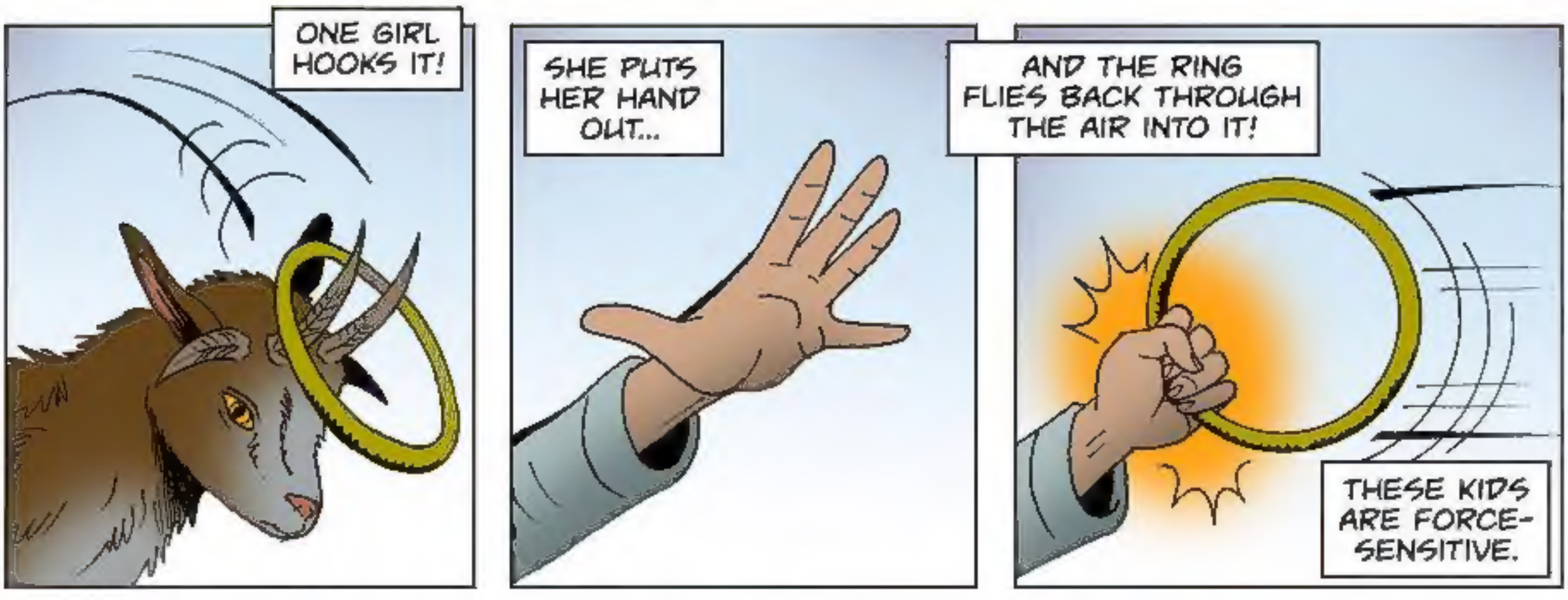
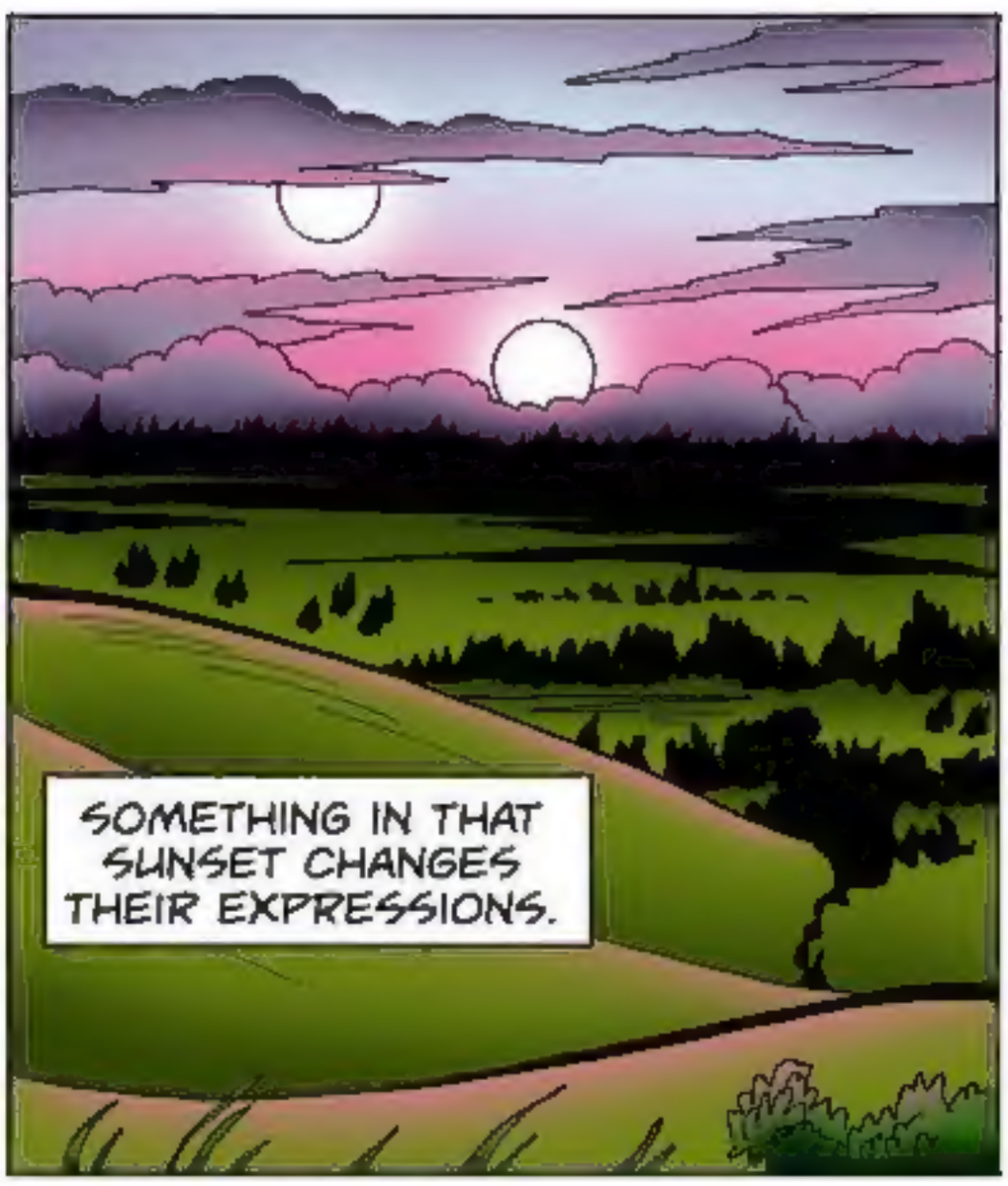








FINN AND ROSE HAVE BUILT A REFUGE FOR FORCE-SENSITIVE YOUTH TO LIVE THE LIFE THEY NEVER HAD.
THEY WATCH THE CHILDREN AS THE TWIN SUNS SET.


SOMETHING IN THAT SUNSET CHANGES THEIR EXPRESSIONS.

A REALIZATION.
A TREMOR IN THE FORCE...

DEEP SPACE
CHEWIE, TURN THE SHIP AROUND.
RWWOORR-WWGGHH!!!
I KNOW, JUST TURN AROUND!
THE BEACON SUDDENLY GLOWS!

FINN NOTICES A GLIMMER OF LIGHT IN THE DISTANCE.

A FIGURE BLURS ON THE HORIZON.

A FAMILIAR SILHOUETTE.

WALKING FOR A LONG TIME.

BEEP!

THE KIDS STOP THEIR GAME, AND LOOK TO THE FIELDS BEYOND.

REY SOLANA

HER EYES RESTORED.

SHE WALKS TOWARD THE HOMESTEAD.

HERE, SHE WILL TRAIN A NEW GENERATION OF JEDI AND PASS DOWN WHAT SHE HAS LEARNED-- THAT ONLY AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE BALANCE WITHIN CAN LEAD TO PEACE AND JUSTICE IN THE GALAXY.

THE END